

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 /011 W
----- 127927

R 191200Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4407

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 3020

DEPT FOR NEA/EX AND AF/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, LY, SA

SUBJ: AVAILABILITY FSL ANTONE D. HABAYEH

REF: STATE 140123

1. EMBASSY WOULD BE HAPPY TO OFFER ANTONE D. HABAYEH POSITION AS SENIOR TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER; THIS WOULD REQUIRE ADDING LOCAL POSITION TO EMBASSY COMPLEMENT EITHER FROM NEA OR AFRICAN BUREAU SINCE NO VACANCIES EXIST AT PRESENT. MR. HABAYEH IS FAVORABLY REMEMBERED BY DCM HORAN AND PAO RUGGIERO FROM THEIR OWN DAYS IN LIBYA, AND EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT HABAYEH COULD SOON PROVE OF SAME CONSIDERABLE VALUE TO JIDDA AS TRANSLATOR AND ANALYST AS HE WAS TO EMBASSY TRIPOLI.

2. EMBASSY PROPOSES OFFER HABAYEH APPOINTMENT AT LEAST AS FLS 3/3 WITH ANNUAL SALARY OF \$9,940. IN VIEW OF HABAYEH'S EXPERIENCE, FSL RATING AND PRESENT SALARY, WE DO NOT THINK A LOWER OFFER SHOULD BE MADE. THE OFFER OF HIGHER FSL-LEVEL WOULD OF COURSE BE JUSTIFIED AND IN VIEW OF JIDDA'S HIGH COST OF LIVING, RATING OF FSL 2/3 AT \$12,516 P.A. MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE. EMBASSY PREPARED TO DEFER TO DEPARTMENT'S FINAL JUDGMENT ON FUNDS AVAILABLE IF ASSIGNMENT CAN BE MADE.

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3. HABAYEH'S ASSIGNMENT TO JIDDA WOULD ENABLE EMBASSY
TO SHIFT PRESENT SENIOR TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER SALEH
HUSSEIN TO FULL TIME DUTY AS ASSISTANT IN CONSULAR SECTION.
HUSSEIN HAS FOR PAST THREE MONTHS BEEN DIVIDING HIS TIME
EQUALLY BETWEEN CONSULAR AND TRANSLATION UNITS; PRESSURES
ON CONSULAR SECTION, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO GROW. NUMBER
OF NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS HAS RISEN BY 33 PERCENT IN LAST
EIGHTEEN MONTHS AND RESULTING WORKLOAD VIRTUALLY DOUBLED
BECAUSE OF OPERATION BOULDER. IMMIGRANT VISAS HAVE RISEN
BY 50 PERCENT IN SAME PERIOD AND NUMBER OF AMERICANS IN
JIDDA'S CONSULAR DISTRICT WILL INCREASE IN 1973 BY 25
PERCENT TO CIRCA 3,200. BECAUSE OF WORK PRESSURES MORE-
OVER CONSULATE AT PRESENT CANNOT GIVE PROPER ATTENTION
TO FILING, PASSPORT LOOKOUT CARDS, REGISTRATION CARDS
AND OTHER ROUTINE FUNCTIONS.
THACHER

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